

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action dated March 25, 2003, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 2, 4, 6 and 8 are amended, claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 30 - 32 are added; as a result, claims 2 - 8, 10 - 25 and 27 - 32 are now pending in this application.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

In the Office Action, claims 1 - 3 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over House et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,155,474) in view of Nakai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,582). Claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 2 and 8 are amended so that claims 2, 3 and 8 depend from allowable base claim 6.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 3 and 8 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 10 - 25 and 27 - 29.

In the Office Action, claims 4 - 7 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Pursuant to the Examiner's indication, claims 4 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form. Claim 5 depends from allowable base claim 4. Claim 7 depends from allowable base claim 6.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 4-7 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612-359-3267) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Applicant requests that the additional claims fee of \$168.00, and any additional fees deemed necessary, be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-0743

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 6 day of May, 2003.

GREG HANSON

Name

[Signature]

Signature